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MCPON Web site Revamped and Ready

DirectLine, the Web site owned and operated by Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa Jr., has undergone a six-month renovation project and is now open for viewing.



The new site's most significant upgrade is the opportunities it offers users to communicate with one another and the MCPON. The Web address for DirectLine remains the same, www.directline.navy.mil and registration is required. Unlike the previous version, CAC (Common Access Cards) are not required for log-on or access.

The latest renovation to the site makes interaction easier. Message boards are available on a tiered basis to all CPOs, command master chiefs and members of the MCPON Leadership Mess. A section is being developed that would allow any Sailor the opportunity to forward a message to or question the MCPON directly.

DirectLine began as "The Word" in 1976, when MCPON Bob Walker designed it as a newsletter he sent monthly to command master chiefs and chiefs of the boats. The name changed in 1979 and the paper medium continued for more than 20 years until the production and distribution costs became prohibitive. MCPON Jim Herdt re-introduced DirectLine as a Web site in 2001.

The site had been under-utilized in recent years, and its focus had shifted to being a means to request retirement certificates (which is still available on the new version) rather than source for communication and discussion internal to the chiefs' community.